



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: T.W. Bish et al. Examiner: Mohammad Ali  
Serial No.: 09/436,506 Group Art Unit: 2177  
Filed: November 9, 1999 Docket No.: TU999036  
TITLE: METHOD, SYSTEM, AND PROGRAM FOR ACCESSING DATA FROM  
STORAGE SYSTEMS

#12A  
5/27/03  
AW

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 15, 2003.

David W. Victor

**AMENDMENT**

**RECEIVED**

**MAY 22 2003**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**Technology Center 2100**

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is submitted in response to the non-final Office Action dated January 15, 2003, in which the Examiner rejected claims 1-27 as obvious (35 U.S.C. §103) in view of cited prior art. Applicants have amended certain claims and traverse the prior art rejections for the reasons discussed herein with respect to the amended claims.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9.

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